

Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission

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MEMORANDUM

January 16, 2007

TO: Spiny Dogfish Management Board

FROM: Robert Beal, Director, ISFMP

SUBJECT: 2006/2007 Period II Dogfish Quota Reached

This memorandum is to inform the states that the 2006/2007 interstate quota for spiny dogfish has been harvested. Therefore, in accordance with section 4.1.2.2 of the Interstate Fishery Management Plan for Spiny Dogfish (FMP), **effective 0001 hours on January 19, 2007, the spiny dogfish fishery is closed.** As required by the FMP the states must prohibit commercial landing, harvest, and possession of spiny dogfish in state waters for the remainder of the fishing season. Pending no further Commission action, states may re-open their spiny dogfish fishery no earlier than 0001 hours on May 1, 2007, the beginning of the 2007/2008 fishing year.

The Spiny Dogfish and Coastal Shark Management Board voted to increase the 2006/2007 quota in state waters from 4 million to 6 million pounds at the ASMFC's Annual Meeting in late October 2006. Due to the timing of the meeting and *Section 4.1.2* of the Interstate Fisheries Management Plan for Spiny Dogfish, the two million pound increase was only applied to the second period quota, or 42.1% of the annual catch. The following table illustrates the calculation of the available quota for the 2006/2007 fishing year based on the October 2006 motion.

Period	FMP Allocation	Quota During Period	Allocation	Actual Weight
I	57.9% of annual quota	4 million lbs (May 1, 2006 – Oct. 31, 2006)	57.9% of 4 million pounds	2,316,000 lbs
II	42.1% of annual quota	6 million lbs (Nov. 1, 2006 – Apr. 30, 2007)	42.1% of 6 million pounds	2,526,000 lbs
			Annual Quota	4,842,000 lbs

The Board approved a quota of 6 million pounds for the 2007/2008 fishing year and is scheduled to set trip limits for this fishing year at the January ASFMC Winter Meeting. The Board will also review the performance of the 2006/2007 fishery at the this meeting.

Feel free to email or call me, or Chris Vonderweidt (cvonderweidt@asmfc.org) with any questions.

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